



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. BOX 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
EMD / CWB

10069PKP.04

October 22, 2004

Mr. Carlito Caliboso  
Chairman  
Public Utilities Commission  
State of Hawaii  
465 South King Street, First Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

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Dear Mr. Caliboso:

**Subject: East Oahu Transmission Project 46 KV Phased Project  
Draft Environmental Assessment**

The Department of Health (DOH), Clean Water Branch (CWB), has reviewed the subject document and offers the following comments:

1. The Army Corps of Engineers should be contacted at (808) 438-9258 to identify whether a Federal license or permit (including a Department of Army permit) is required for this project. Pursuant to Section 401(a)(1) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the "Clean Water Act"), a Section 401 Water Quality Certification is required for "[a]ny applicant for Federal license or permit to conduct any activity including, but not limited to, the construction or operation of facilities, which may result in any discharge into the navigable waters..."
2. A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit coverage is required for the following activities:
  - a. Storm water associated with industrial activities, as defined in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 122.26(b)(14)(i) through 122.26(b)(14)(ix) and 122.26(b)(14)(xi).
  - b. Construction activities, including clearing, grading, and excavation, that result in the disturbance of equal to or greater than one (1) acre of total land area. The total land area includes a contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules under a larger common plan of development or sale. **An NPDES permit is required before the commencement of the construction activities.**
  - c. Discharges of treated effluent from leaking underground storage tank remedial activities.
  - d. Discharges of once through cooling water less than one (1) million gallons per day.
  - e. Discharges of hydrotesting water.

- f. Discharges of construction dewatering effluent.
- g. Discharges of treated effluent from petroleum bulk stations and terminals.
- h. Discharges of treated effluent from well drilling activities.
- i. Discharges of treated effluent from recycled water distribution systems.
- j. Discharges of storm water from a small municipal separate storm sewer system.
- k. Discharges of circulation water from decorative ponds or tanks.

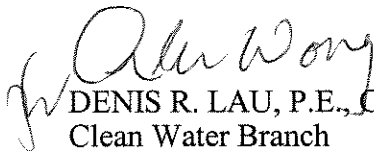
The CWB requires that a Notice of Intent (NOI) to be covered by an NPDES general permit for any of the above activities be submitted at least 30 days before the commencement of the respective activities. The NOI forms may be picked up at our office or downloaded from our website at:

<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/index.html>

3. The applicant may be required to apply for an individual NPDES permit if there is any type of activity in which wastewater is discharged from the project into State waters and/or coverage of the discharge(s) under the NPDES general permit(s) is not permissible (i.e. NPDES general permits do not cover discharges into Class 1 or Class AA State waters). An application for the NPDES permit is to be submitted at least 180 days before the commencement of the respective activities. The NPDES application forms may also be picked up at our office or downloaded from our website at:  
<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/index.html>
4. Hawaii Administrative Rules, Section 11-55-38, also requires the applicant to either submit a copy of the new NOI or NPDES permit application to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD), or demonstrate to the satisfaction of the DOH that the project, activity, or site covered by the NOI or application has been or is being reviewed by SHPD.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kris Poentis of the Engineering Section, CWB, at 586-4309.

Sincerely,

  
DENIS R. LAU, P.E., CHIEF  
Clean Water Branch

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